

**Town of Arlington
Transportation Advisory Committee**

Minutes of 3/12/08, 7:15 to 10:00 PM, Town Hall Annex 2nd Floor Conference Room
Minutes submitted by Laura Wiener

Members and Associates Present: Elisabeth Carr-Jones, Jean Clark, Lieut. Paul Conroy, Sue Doctrow, John Lentz, Jeff Maxtutis, Mike Rademacher, Scott Smith, Laura Wiener.
Non-members Present: Paolo Marinelli, Angela Alton, Carlene Hempel, Geoff Edgers.

1. Public Comments. None.
2. Administration.
2/13/08 minutes, Voted to approve unanimously.
Correspondence and current projects were reviewed. Working Group needed for Winslow Towers and Winter Street. Project Status reviewed. Safe Routes to School handout in packet.
3. Discussion of support requests. Requests from Paolo Marinelli, who first asked about status of a request from Jan., 06 to review traffic pattern at Paul Revere Road and Park Ave. Then discussed three requests for support from February meeting—continue snow removal on Minuteman Trail, support for warrant article for snow removal at curb cuts, sidewalks in school zones, and more curb cuts. Scott reported that the Arlington Bicycle Advisory Committee (ABAC) voted favorably regarding snow removal on Minuteman Trail. Elisabeth noted that using Town funds for sidewalk clearing that is supposed to be done by residents takes money that could be used for other services. Scott noted that TAC has already established a policy statement (“Decision Criteria”) that emphasizes the needs of pedestrians and persons with disabilities. Motion: TAC generally is pleased at the success of the Minuteman Trail plowing pilot, and supports the needs of pedestrians and people with disabilities with our snow removal practices, including increased enforcement. Voted 8 in favor, one abstention (Lieut. Conroy). Motion: TAC generally supports continuing snow removal efforts on the Minutemen Trail. Voted 9 in favor. No action taken on request to support additional funding for curb cuts.
4. Downing Square. Carlene Hempel and Geoff Edgers, neighborhood residents, were present. Elisabeth outlined the five options along with the combinations favored by the BSC Group, Options 6 and 7. Working Group will meet with consultant at end of month. Working Group to include Jeff, Mike, Ed, Elisabeth, Sue and BSC. Carlene said she prefers traffic calming over putting in a signal. Elisabeth noted that we can try things in phases and evaluate. She also noted that changes to the signal at Mass. Ave. and Park Ave. could reduce back ups that affect Downing Square. There is currently \$300,000 in the capital budget for improving this area.
5. Thompson School Update. Angela Alton has submitted a CDBG application for sidewalks along the park on Everett and North Union Streets. Recommend installation of 3 crosswalks, at North Union and Norcross (north side), Ernest Road at Everett St., Norcross St. at North Union. Voted to approve unanimously. Paul noted that he prefers all of the improvements to go in at once, for better compliance. Mike to check on getting on the list for sign installation.
6. Appleton One-Way Recommendation. Mike submitted his recommendation in a draft memo dated March 12, 2008. He suggests prohibiting parking on the west side of Appleton Place between 7 am and 4 pm, (timing at Paul’s suggestion). Jeff suggested for weekdays only. Mike to review location of handicap access to church. Mike will finalize memo for next meeting, and notify abutters.

7. Westminster Phase 2 Recommendations for BoS. Elisabeth distributed “Lowell Street Traffic Calming draft: 12 March 2008”, proposing installation of a 6’ median to slow traffic. Scott will review for bicycle suitability. Turn radius to be checked.
8. Germaine Lawrence School Discussion. Jeff and John surveyed Claremont Ave. and Wollaston Ave. for existing parking and found 116 spaces on the street, with an additional 51 spaces on site. Next they will look at parking demand generated by the school.
9. Forest Street Update. Mike will be reviewing crosswalk locations. Upcoming public meeting.
10. Stratton School Update. John, Jeff, Lenore Wadman and Alan Brown met to discuss next steps, using the Safe Routes checklist. Sidewalk Inventory will follow next.
11. Dallin School Update. Next step is to develop standard sign for Pick up and Drop off area and install.
12. Peirce School Update. Sue, Elisabeth and Paul met with Principal Robert Penta and Parent Michael Natoli. They are pulling together a Working Group.
13. Bishop School. Kick-off meeting has occurred, and next meeting is scheduled for Friday, 2/15.
14. Snow and Ice Update. Review of past year. Town is looking at using snow blowers at key locations. Also discussed snow emergencies—how best to disseminate information.
15. Green Line Extension Meetings/Action. Information meeting scheduled for March 26 at Town Hall. Outreach underway. TAC is a co-sponsor. Emphasis of meeting will be a possible station location at Mystic Valley Parkway/Route 16 and Boston Ave.
16. Meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm.

Handouts:

Ed’s Meeting Package: Agenda, 3/12/08; Minutes of 2/13/08; Project Status, 3/12/08; Active/Planned TAC Projects and Working Groups”, 3/12/08; Material from Safe Routes to Schools Website, Feb., 08, “Creating a Safe Routes to School Improvement Plan”. Draft Memo to Board of Selectmen, Subject: Appleton Place, Dated March 12, 2008 “Intersection/Network Impacts” for Downing Square, and “BSC Group Option 6 and BSC Group Option 7, Downing Square”
Lowell Street Traffic Calming, draft: 12 March 2008.